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DE RUEHTU #2911 3481559
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 141559Z DEC 06
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2347
INFO RUEHXX/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 002911

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STATE FOR NEA/FO AND MAG

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/13/2016
TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPAL](#) [PTER](#) [SY](#) [TS](#)
SUBJECT: TUNISIAN INTERACTION WITH SYRIA

REF: STATE 197800

Classified By: AMBASSADOR ROBERT F. GODEC FOR REASONS 1.4 (b) AND (d)

[¶1.](#) (C) During his December 14 courtesy call with M'hamed Chelaifa, Director General for Asia and the Americas, Ambassador raised reftel demarche regarding Tunisian interaction with Syrian officials. Chelaifa said he was not aware of any high-level visits scheduled between Syria and Tunisia. He added that, if the GOT were to meet with the SARG, "We would urge moderation and peace."

[¶2.](#) (C) Ambassador went on to discuss the U.S.-Tunisian bilateral relationship. He emphasized the importance of Tunisia making progress on political issues and the importance of broadening the bilateral dialogue. Chelaifa agreed that this type of strategic dialogue would benefit our relationship.
GODEC